

REMARKS

The application includes claims 13-18, 20, 21, 38-40, 42-44, 50, 51, 53-55, and 57-72 prior to entering this amendment.

The examiner objects to claim 66 as being directed to an invention that is independent or distinct from the invention originally claimed.

The examiner rejected claims 13-18, 20, 21, 38-40, 42-44, 50, 51, 53-55, 57 58-65, and 67-72 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over the applicants' admitted prior art (AAPA) in view of Rate Control for Robust Video Transmission Over Burst-Error Wireless Channels (Hsu), Lee et al. (U.S. Patent 6,351, 491), and Ozkan et al. (U.S. Patent 6,055,270).

The examiner rejected claims 59, 60, 68, and 69 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over AAPA in view of Hsu, Lee, Ozkan, and Keesman et al. (U.S. Patent 5,606,369).

The examiner rejected claims 62 and 71 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over AAPA in view of Hsu, Lee, Ozkan, and Nakase et al. (U.S. Patent 5,742,361).

The examiner rejected claims 61 and 70 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over AAPA in view of Hsu, Lee, Ozkan, and Cisneros (U.S. Patent 5,130,984).

The applicants amend claims 13, 20, 21, 38, 42-44, 55, and 57-59.

The applicants cancel claims 16 and 66 without prejudice.

The application includes claims 13-15, 17-18, 20, 21, 38-40, 42-44, 50, 51, 53-55, 57-65, and 67-72 after entering this amendment.

The applicants do not add new matter and respectfully request reconsideration.

Interview Summary

The applicants thank examiner Huber for discussing the application and the prior art with the applicants' counsel over the telephone on 11/20/2009. Examiner Huber and the applicants' counsel analyzed proposed amendments to claims 13 and 38 with reference to Lee. Examiner Huber suggested a certain direction of claim amendments that would likely result in allowance although Examiner Huber and the applicants' counsel did not agree on the claims' patentability.

Claim Objections

The examiner objects to claim 66 as being directed to an invention that is independent or distinct from the invention originally claimed. The applicants cancel claim 66 to obviate the examiner's rejections.

Claim Rejections Under § 103

The examiner rejected claims 13-18, 20, 21, 38-40, 42-44, 50, 51, 53-55, 57 and 67-72 under § 103(a) over AAPA, Hsu, Lee, and Ozkan or AAPA, Hsu, Lee, Ozkan, and Keesman, Nakase, or Cisneros. The applicants respectfully traverse the examiner's rejections particularly as they have amended the claims.

Claim 13, as amended, recites *incorporating the plurality of output bitstreams into a video block for the compressed input bitstream comprising a header, an input video segment, and a plurality of output video segments associated with at least one of the plurality of output bitstreams, wherein the header is configured to include offset information for each of the plurality of output video segments, the offset information configured to indicate a start of a corresponding video segment when each of the plurality of output video segments are packaged end to end within the video block*. Claim 38 recites *wherein the header is configured to identify an offset for each of the video segments indicating a start of a each of the video segments when the video segments are arranged end to end in the video block and wherein the switch is configured to seek the start of the selected one of the video segments responsive to extracting the offset associated with the selected one of the video segments from the header*.

In rejecting the previously recited *each video segment being differently offset within the video block*, the examiner argued that an offset "could refer to an offset to the end of a segment as is shown in Fig. 6 of Lee, where e.g., the end of segment S1 is offset from the end of segment S0 so that the segments can be differentiated."¹ The claims, however, very specifically recite that the header includes *offset information for each of the plurality of output video segments configured to indicate a start of a corresponding video segment when each of the plurality of output video segments are packaged end to end within the video block*. It would appear that the currently proposed amendments overcome Lee in that the examiner acknowledged that Lee's offset refers to an "offset to the end of a segment as shown in Fig. 6 of Lee" and do not disclose

¹ Office action mailed 9/16/2009, page 11.

an offset configured to indicate a start of a corresponding video segment when each of the plurality of output video segments are packaged end to end within the video block as recited.

Moreover, claim 13 recites wherein the offset information allows for selection of an output video segment responsive to bitrate demands of other concurrent output streams from at least one other compressed input bitstream without real-time transrating of any of the plurality of the output bitstreams. And claim 38 recites wherein the video block is configured to allow a switch module to select from the video block for the compressed input bitstream one of the video segments for output responsive to bit rate demands of other concurrent output streams from at least one other compressed input bitstream without decoding of any of the plurality of the output bitstreams. Lee, in contrast, specifically discloses a hierarchical coding system that “recursively adjusts each quantization scale of a subband layer in accordance with a weighting factor that prioritizes the importance among the subband or resolution layers.”² The resultant stream of Lee would not allow for the for selection of an output video segment responsive to bitrate demands of other concurrent output streams from at least one other compressed input bitstream without real-time transrating of any of the plurality of the output bitstreams as recited. This is because Lee’s stream requires that a decoder wanting to obtain particular qualities of an input image to decode the relevant portions of the bitstream. Lee discloses that “...if a decoder needs to obtain a particular quality 612 of the input image, then the decoder simply decodes the corresponding portion 610 of the bitstream.”³ It follows then that if the decoder wanted to obtain quality 622 it would require decoding portion 620, which includes decoding portion 610.

For at least these reasons, independent claims 13 and 38 are in condition for the examiner’s allowance. Claims 14-18, 20, 21, 39, 40, 42-44, 50, 51, 53-55, 57-65, and 67-72 depend from either of independent claims 13 or 38. Claims 13-18, 20, 21, 38-40, 42-44, 50, 51, 53-55, 57-65, and 67-72 should be in condition for allowance.

² Lee, column 2, lines 42-45.

³ Lee, column 5, lines 51-61.

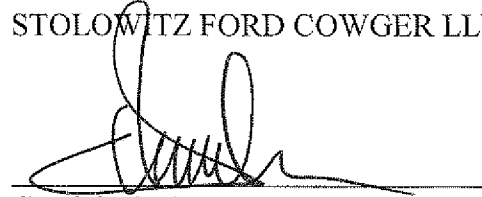
Conclusion

The applicants respectfully request reconsideration and allowance of claims 13-15, 17-18, 20, 21, 38-40, 42-44, 50, 51, 53-55, 57-65, and 67-72. The applicants encourage the examiner to call if an interview would further prosecution.

Customer No. 73552

Respectfully submitted,

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A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Graciela G. Cowger', is written over a horizontal line.

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